

Replace paragraph [0051] with the following rewritten version of the same paragraph:

A² [0051] The enlarged opening 36 and the cooperation of transition zone 38 and valve neck 4 advantageously permit a larger aperture ring gate 24 to be achieved than is possible with the prior art and without the need for the spreading or distribution means of the prior art, such as those shown variously in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,340,353 to Mayer, 5,324,190 to Frei, 5,460,763 to Asai, 4,394,117 to Taylor, No. 5,783,234 to Teng and 5,840,231 to Teng, each of which is incorporated herein by reference. None of these references teaches the use of a transition 38 and enlarged opening 36 to permit a relatively small diameter melt channel 12 to provide melt to a larger aperture part P, as is shown in Figure 5, while permitting the melt to flow freely, in an unrestricted manner, into the cavity, thereby permitting improved part quality.

Replace paragraph [0053] with the following rewritten version of the same paragraph:

A³ [0053] One skilled in the art will understand that other modifications are possible. For example, the use of a guide spigot 3 is desirable but not necessary. Further, the actuation of valve pin 1 and its movement from the "open" to "closed" positions may be achieved by other known means. See, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 4,053,271 to Gellert; U.S. Patent No. 5,916,605 to Swenson; U.S. Patent No. 5,948,450 to Swenson; U.S. Patent No. 5,984,661 to Vorkoper; U.S. Patent No. 6,159,000 to Puri; and U.S. Patent No. 6,086,357 to Steil, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.